

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed April 2, 2004. Applicant amends Claims 1, 8, 16, 23, 29, and 35. Applicant cancels Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18, 27, 28, 30, 31, 38, and 39, without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant also adds new Claims 40-72, which are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 5, 7, 11, 13, 14, 18, 21, 22, 25, 28, 31, 33, 34, 37, and 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant amends Claims 1, 8, 16, 23, 29, and 35 to include elements of allowable Claims 5, 11, 18, 28, 31, 39, respectively, thus placing Claims 1, 8, 16, 23, 29, and 35 in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicant also cancels Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18, 27, 28, 30, and 31 obviating the Examiner's objections to those claims.

Applicant wishes to note that, with respect to all amendments and cancellations herein, Applicant reserves the right to pursue broader subject matter than that presently claimed through the filing of continuations and/or other related applications.

Additionally, as discussed further below, Applicant adds new Claims 40, 44, 49, 54, 58, 62, 65, 68, and 71 which include elements of allowed Claims 7, 13, 14, 21, 22, 25, 33, 34, and 37, respectively. Thus, Claims are also allowable in accordance with the Examiner's indications.

Section 102 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 16-17, 19, 23, 27, and 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,893,305 issued to Fernandez et al. ("*Fernandez*").

As indicated above, Applicant amends Claims 16, 23 and 29 to include elements of allowable Claims 18, 28 and 35, respectively. Thus, Claims 16, 23, and 29 is thus allowable in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 16, 23, and 29, and their respective dependents.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fernandez* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,304,578 issued to Fluss ("*Fluss*"). As indicated above, Applicant amends Claim 1 to include elements of allowable Claim 5. Claim 1 is thus allowable in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 1 and its dependents.

The Examiner rejects Claims 20, 24, 26, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fernandez* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,246,754 issued to Cole et al. ("*Cole*"). Claim 20 depends from Claim 16, which has been shown above to be allowable. Claim 20 is thus allowable for at least this reason. Claims 24 and 26 depend from Claim 23, which has been shown above to be allowable. Claims 24 and 26 are thus allowable for at least this reason. Claim 32 depends from Claim 29, which has been shown above to be allowable. Claim 32 is thus allowable for at least this reason. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 20, 24, 26, and 32.

The Examiner rejects Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fernandez* in view of *Fluss* and *Cole*. Claim 6 depends from Claim 1, which has been shown above to be allowable. Claim 6 is thus allowable for at least this reason. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 6.

The Examiner rejects Claims 8-10, 12, 15, 35-36, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Cole* in view of U.S. Patent No. U.S. Patent No. 6,343,077 issued to *Chin*. As indicated above, Applicant amends Claims 8 and 35 to include elements of allowable Claims 11 and 39, thereby

placing Claims 8 and 35 in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 8 and 35, and their respective dependents.

New Claims

Applicant adds new Claims 40-72, which are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. New Claims 40, 44, 49, 54, 58, 62, 65, 68, and 71 include elements of allowed Claims 7, 13, 14, 21, 22, 25, 33, 34, and 37, respectively. Thus, Claims are also allowable in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicant respectfully requests consideration and full allowance of Claims 40, 44, 49, 54, 58, 62, 65, 68, and 71, and their respective dependents.

Conclusions

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending Claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicant stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

A check in the amount of \$1,152.00 is attached to cover the fee for additional claims. No other fees are believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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